

**MLT Program of Maine  
CODE OF ETHICS**

Medical professionals and their patients depend on technical skills, knowledge, honesty, and integrity from everyone on the healthcare team. Those engaged in laboratory medicine add to those attributes careful attention to detail, accuracy, and precision.

Producing reliable and quality test results is the province of the clinical laboratory. Educators are responsible for producing ethical, well-trained graduates. Therefore, in addition to the technical curriculum, the Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) Program emphasizes professional ethics and attitudes.

Unethical practices can result in legal action and/or endangering patients. Clinical laboratories cannot tolerate dishonesty and unsafe or unethical behavior. The MLT Program will dismiss students who demonstrate such behaviors as plagiarizing, falsifying lab results, destroying/misusing equipment, and failing to adhere to safety policies. The program adheres to the Code of Ethics of the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). ASCP publishes principles and standards for clinical laboratory professionals.

MLT students pledge the following:

- To treat patients, instructors, and colleagues with respect and thoughtfulness;
- To perform laboratory work in an accurate and responsible manner;
- To use laboratory resources properly;
- To abide by laws and regulations and disclose illegal or improper behavior to the appropriate authorities;
- To study the Medical Laboratory Technician body of knowledge conscientiously throughout their training.

Continuing to update knowledge and skills throughout a career in laboratory medicine is ethical behavior. Program instructors will convey this concept of responsibility.

**Evaluation of Professional Attitudes and Behaviors:**

One of the MLT Program goals is to train ethical, responsible laboratory professionals. To guide students toward this end, the program has developed an evaluation tool for use in clinical rotations. It conveys the program's dedication to attributes such as honesty; integrity; persistence; initiative; dependability; flexibility; patience; respect for others; and ability to follow directions and work under stress; accept criticism; and be organized. Other attributes include compliance with safety regulations and quality assurance practices and skill in communicating, prioritizing, and making appropriate judgment calls.

Assessments by instructors will be completed periodically throughout the program.

**I have read and understood the code of ethics and all questions were answered to my satisfaction. As of this date I can meet the expectations of the MLT Program of Maine.**

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Student's Printed Name

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Student's Signature

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Date